

Colonel Matt R. Merrick

Colonel Matt R. Merrick was born in Las Cruces, New Mexico and was commissioned as a Field Artillery Officer immediately following his 1983 graduation from the University of New Mexico. After graduating from the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Colonel Merrick was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colorado, where he served in a variety of tactical positions at the battery and battalion level. Upon graduation from the Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course and the Combined Arms Services Staff School in October 1987, he was assigned to the 4th Battalion, 82d Field Artillery, 3rd Armored Division in Hanau, Germany, where he served as an Assistant S3 and Battery Commander. In 1989, he commanded Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 3rd Armored Division Artillery and deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield, Storm and Provide Comfort.



In October 1991, Colonel Merrick was assigned to the Gunnery Department, U.S. Army Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he served as an instructor on the Paladin New Equipment Team and later as the Chief of the Paladin New Equipment Training Team. Upon completion of the Command and General Staff Officer Course in June 1996, he was assigned to 1st Cavalry Division where he served as the 3rd Brigade Fire Support Officer and the 2d Battalion, 82d Field Artillery S3. In December 1997, he became the 1st Cavalry Division Artillery S3. Later, he served as the Division Artillery Executive Officer from November 1998 until his departure from Fort Hood in March 2000. He assumed command of the 1st Battalion, 15th Field Artillery, 2d Infantry Division in May 2000. Following Battalion Command, he attended the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. In 2003, he served as the Chief of Staff and Deputy Commanding Officer of the 5th Recruiting Brigade, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He assumed command of the 2nd Infantry Division Fires Brigade in June 2005 and reflagged the Brigade in November 2006 to the 210th Fires Brigade. After Brigade Command, he became the Executive Officer to the UNC/CFC/USFK Commander from 2007-2008 and deployed to OIF in July 2008 and served as the Chief of Staff for CJ9, MNFI. He is currently assigned to the United States Field Artillery School and serves as the Assistant Commandant.

Colonel Merrick's military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, the Bronze Star Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters and the Army Commendation Medal with five oak leaf clusters. He holds a Masters Degree in Business Administration and a Masters Degree in Strategic Studies.